

ATTACHMENT 3  
SUMMARY OF LOCAL ORDINANCES  
(Source: Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries)

Local Firearms Ordinances, Laws, and Regulations

The following counties have regulations concerning the use and transportation of firearms. The number or numbers following that county name indicate the regulations listed below for that particular county. In addition, certain counties have ordinances other than those listed, primarily pertaining to possession of firearms near parks or schools, hunting or discharging firearms near populated areas or buildings and age limitations for possession of loaded firearms on public roads.

Accomack 43	Lunenburg 6, 17
Albemarle 16, 54	Madison 22, 25, 54
Amelia 15	Mecklenburg 27
Amherst 18	Middlesex 26
Appomattox 4, 12, 51	Nelson 22
Arlington 59	New Kent 8, 12, 25, 54
Bath 20	Northampton 7, 53
Buckingham 2, 12	Northumberland 9, 26, 42, 48, 54, 55
Caroline 6, 17	Orange 18, 22, 34
Campbell 27	Pittsylvania 26
Charles City 17, 24	Prince George 7, 9, 13, 42
Chesterfield 7, 14, 22, 37, 52, 54	Prince William 2, 9, 12, 18
Clarke 25, 54	Rappahannock 18
Culpeper 18, 22, 54	Richmond 6, 7, 9, 48
Cumberland 7, 27, 42, 48	Roanoke 25, 54
Dinwiddie 4, 12, 13	Rockbridge 54
Essex 7, 42, 49	Southampton 8, 19, 42
Fairfax 2, 25, 45	Stafford 18, 54
Fauquier 14, 18, 22, 36, 37, 54	Surry 7, 53, 54
Floyd 18	Sussex 8, 48
Franklin 26	Warren 54
Gloucester 14	Westmoreland 9, 42, 50
Goochland 2, 9, 17, 23	York 46, 47
Greensville 15, 21, 22	Chesapeake 29, 30, 46
Halifax 2, 7, 27, 38, 48	Danville 54
Hanover 7, 46, 53	Hampton (city) 31, 45
Isle of Wight 8, 12, 35	Newport News 1
James City 40, 54	Petersburg 54
King George 6, 22, 26, 52, 54	Richmond (city) 54
King and Queen 24, 39, 42	Suffolk 18, 29, 44
King William 10, 17, 18, 28	Virginia Beach 2, 7, 18, 54, 56, 57, 58
Lancaster 6, 12, 22	Williamsburg 1, 54

Loudoun 18, 22, 54

Dismal Swamp 29

Louisa 4, 9, 17, 27

1. No discharge of firearms except on approved ranges.
2. No rifles larger than .22 for hunting.
4. No rifles larger than .22 for hunting except groundhogs.
6. No rifles larger than .22 for hunting except groundhogs outside of the regular hunting season.
7. No rifles for deer hunting.
8. No rifles for big game hunting.
9. No hunting with shotguns loaded with slugs.
10. No hunting of big game with shotguns loaded with slugs.
12. It is lawful to use muzzleloading rifles for game animals in the regular hunting season.
13. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles from stands elevated 10 feet.
14. It is unlawful to hunt from the road with firearms.
15. It is unlawful to hunt with firearms from the road and within 10 feet of the ditch bank.
16. It is unlawful to hunt within 50 feet of the road.
17. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized deer season where firearms are permitted.
18. It is unlawful to hunt with a firearm within 100 yds. of a road.
19. It is unlawful  
to transport, possess or carry a loaded rifle in any vehicle while on the road from October 1 through February 15.
20. It is unlawful to transport or possess a loaded shotgun or loaded rifle in any vehicle on the road between ☐ hour after sunset to ☐ hour ☐ 敢濟敲  
r before sunrise.
21. It is unlawful to transport or possess a loaded shotgun or loaded rifle on the road from October 1 through February 15.
22. It is unlawful to possess a loaded firearm on the road except when permission to hunt is obtained from landowners on each side.
23. It is unlawful to transport or possess loaded shotgun or loaded rifle on the road from sundown to sunrise.
24. No rifles over .22 for hunting except for groundhogs from March 1 to September 1.
- 25.
25. No hunting with firearms of game species from within 100 yds. of a road.
26. No hunting with firearms of any game animal from the road right of way.
27. No hunting with firearms from the road including ditch to ditch.
28. No hunting with a rifle larger than .22 or shotgun slugs during the deer season.
29. When 100 yds. from a road and elevated from a stand 15 ft. above ground a rifle may be used to hunt big game east of the Dismal Swamp line. (Note: No muzzleloader deer season in this locality. Hunters must follow general firearms deer season restrictions.)
30. It is unlawful to carry a loaded firearm on the road or on the right-of-way.
31. No discharge of firearms except from licensed waterfowl blinds.
34. It is unlawful to transport or possess a loaded shotgun or rifle in a vehicle on a road during open deer season.
35. It is unlawful to shoot or hunt with a rifle, pistol or shotgun loaded with slugs or to

discharge a firearm within 100 yds. of a boardwalk or nature trail on the Ragged Island Wildlife Management Area.

36. It is unlawful to discharge a firearm from or across any sidewalk, highway or on public land.

37. It is unlawful for minors to carry firearms on public highways or public lands unless accompanied by certain adults.

38. It shall be unlawful to use any ammunition larger than .22 rimfire while hunting, except rifles up to .25 may be used to hunt groundhogs from March 1 to September 1 with written permission from the landowner.

39. It shall be lawful to use muzzleloading rifles for deer and squirrels during the regular season.

40. It shall be unlawful to discharge a rifle larger than .22 caliber, a muzzleloader larger than .36 caliber, or a shotgun loaded with slugs except from stands elevated at least 10 feet

above the ground, except for groundhogs in certain areas between March 1 and September 1.

42. It shall be unlawful to use a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire except that groundhogs may be hunted with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire between March 1 and August 31.

43. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a firearm on or within 50 feet of the center of any primary and secondary highway.

44. No rifles for big game hunting in that portion west of the Dismal Swamp line.

45. All rifles, pistols, or shotguns loaded with slugs prohibited for any hunting.

46. Discharging firearms or air-operated or gas-operated weapons prohibited within certain areas: check local county/city ordinances.

47. No discharge of rifles larger than .22 except on approved ranges.

48. Muzzleloading rifles permitted during the special muzzleloading season.

49. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized firearms season for the hunting of game animals except for the hunting of turkeys during the spring gobbler season.

50. Shotguns loaded with slugs and muzzleloading rifles may be used for big game hunting.

51. It shall be unlawful to use a rifle larger than .22 rimfire except that groundhogs may be hunted with a rifle of larger caliber.

52. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles during the special muzzleloading season.

53. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles.

54. It is unlawful to transport, possess or carry a loaded rifle or shotgun in any vehicle on any public street, road or highway.

55. During the general firearms deer season, muzzleloading rifles may be used from a stand at least six feet above the ground.

56. No discharge of firearms across or within 150 yards of any building, dwelling, street, sidewalk, alley, roadway, public land or public place.

57. No discharge of firearms north or west of a line from the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach boundary, thence northwardly along North Landing Road, thence eastwardly along Indian River Road, thence northeastwardly along New Bridge Road, thence eastwardly along

Sandbridge Road to the Atlantic Ocean, or across any land north of False Cape Park and east of Shipp's Bay and Point Creek. No discharge of rifles larger than .22 south of this line except muzzleloading rifles may be used to hunt deer during the firearms deer season.

58. Shotguns firing pellets lawful on certain agricultural lands of fifty contiguous acres or more, and on certain lands south of a line from the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach boundary, thence northeastwardly along Elbow Road; thence southeastwardly along Salem Road; thence northeastwardly along North Landstown Road; thence southeastwardly along Princess Anne Road; thence eastwardly along Sandbridge Road to the Atlantic Ocean. The property must be permitted by the City Manager for this purpose.

59. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or shoot off a firearm in the county. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or shoot or throw any dangerous missiles by mechanical, explosive, air- or gas-propelled means, or similar method or device onto or across any public sidewalk, path, or roadway, at any public structure or building, or at or onto the property of another. It is unlawful for any person to shoot a compound bow, crossbow, longbow, or recurve bow at or upon the property of another without permission. It shall be unlawful to discharge a projectile from any of the aforementioned bows within 100 yards of any public road, public building or structure, private residence or structure, or property of another. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prohibit the use of firearms or other instruments or missiles or compound bows, crossbows, longbows, or recurve bows in lawful self defense or in the lawful defense of property, or to prohibit the use of firearms or other missiles or compound bows, crossbows, longbows, or recurve bows in supervised sport, recreation, or training conducted on safety-inspected and approved ranges and courses, provided the same is not contrary to existing law.

#### ATTACHMENT 4

##### CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH ORDINANCE

Sec. 38-3. Discharge of firearms, air guns, etc.

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm, spring-propelled rifle or pistol or air-propelled rifle or pistol, from or across any land or water north or west of the trace of the line beginning at the intersection of North Landing Road and the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach city boundary line; thence northwardly along North Landing Road to Indian River Road; thence eastwardly along Indian River Road to New Bridge Road; thence northeastwardly along New Bridge Road to Sandbridge Road, thence eastwardly along Sandbridge Road to its intersection with the Atlantic Ocean, or across any land north of False Cape State Park and east of Shipp's Bay and Point Creek. This prohibition shall not apply to shotguns discharging pellets under the following conditions:

(1) On land that is fifty (50) acres or more of contiguous area, or less than fifty (50) acres of contiguous area south of the trace of the line beginning at the intersection of Elbow Road and the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach city boundary line; thence northeastwardly along Elbow Road to Salem Road; thence southeastwardly along Salem Road to North Landstown Road; thence northeastwardly along Landstown Road to Princess Anne Road; thence southeastwardly along Princess Anne Road to Sandbridge Road; thence eastwardly along Sandbridge Road to its intersection with the Atlantic

Ocean; and

- (2) Under one (1) ownership; and
- (3) Used primarily for agricultural purposes; and
- (4) The landowner has applied for an annual permit from the city manager to use his property for this purpose, which permit shall be granted by the city manager if the applicant meets the requirements of this section; and
- (5) The person discharging a shotgun as herein set forth shall, at all times while engaged in such activity, have in his possession written permission from the landowner to discharge such weapon on the premises; and
- (6) All permits shall expire on the next June 30 after the date of issuance.

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a)(4) above, no permit shall be issued to a landowner if it is determined by the city manager or his duly authorized agent that the issuance of such permit would be detrimental to the public safety, and any permit that has been issued and is in effect may be revoked by the city manager if it is determined by the city manager or his duly authorized agent that conditions have changed since the date of issuance of the permit that cause the continued use of the land for the permitted purpose to be detrimental to the public safety.

It shall be lawful to discharge firearms of .22-caliber or less south of the trace line enumerated in subsection (a) subject to the provisions of this section. It shall be unlawful to discharge any firearms greater than .22-caliber any place within the city; provided, however, that muzzleloading rifles using a charge of black powder or black powder equivalent may be used to hunt deer during the open season prescribed therefor by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries south of the trace of the line described in subsection (a)(1). For purposes of this section, a muzzleloading rifle shall mean a single-shot flintlock or percussion rifle, .45 caliber or larger, firing a single lead projectile or sabot with a .38 caliber or larger nonjacketed lead projectile of the same caliber loaded from the muzzle of the weapon and propelled by at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or black powder equivalent.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm, spring-propelled rifle or pistol or air-propelled rifle or pistol from, on, across or within one hundred fifty (150) yards of any building, dwelling, street, sidewalk, alley, roadway or public land or public place within the city limits.

The prohibitions of this section shall not apply to the operation of a shooting event that is sponsored by an organized group, provided, the written approval of the chief of police as to the safety and location of the event is obtained prior to the event.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the discharge of firearms and other

weapons by law enforcement agencies and military forces in the city as part of authorized training or in the performance of their duties.

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A violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.

(Code 1965, § 38-2; Ord. No.1107, 10-20-80; Ord. No.1220. 9-14-81; Ord. No.1332, 9-27-82;

Ord. No.1622, 9-15-86; Ord. No.1624, 9-29-86; Ord. No.2525, 4-6-99)

State law reference(s)--Authority of city to regulate or prohibit discharge of firearms.

Code of Virginia, § 15.1-865; discharging firearms in streets or public places. §§ 18.2-280, 18-2-286.

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13. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles from stands elevated 10 feet.

14. It is unlawful to hunt from the road with firearms.

15. It is unlawful to hunt with firearms from the road and within 10 feet of the ditch bank.

16. It is unlawful to hunt within 50 feet of the road.

17. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized deer season where firearms are permitted.

18. It is unlawful to hunt with a firearm within 100 yds. of a road.

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25. No hunting with firearms of game species from within 100 yds. of a road.

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29. When 100 yds. from a road and elevated from a stand 15 ft. above ground a rifle may be used to hunt big game east of the Dismal Swamp line. (Note: No muzzleloader deer season in this locality. Hunters must follow general firearms deer season restrictions.)

30. It is unlawful to carry a loaded firearm on the road or on the right-of-way.

31. No discharge of firearms except from licensed waterfowl blinds.

34. It is unlawful to transport or possess a loaded shotgun or rifle in a vehicle on a road during open deer season.

35. It is unlawful to shoot or hunt with a rifle, pistol or shotgun loaded with slugs or to discharge a firearm within 100 yds. of a boardwalk or nature trail on the Ragged Island Wildlife Management Area.
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45. All rifles, pistols, or shotguns loaded with slugs prohibited for any hunting.
46. Discharging firearms or air-operated or gas-operated weapons prohibited within certain areas: check local county/city ordinances.
47. No discharge of rifles larger than .22 except on approved ranges.
48. Muzzleloading rifles permitted d7

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